PATH5331 - Pastoral Ministry  
Saturday Hybrid – 8:00 – 11:50 am  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Division of Pastoral Ministries  
Dr. Mark Tolbert  
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Professor of Preaching and Pastoral Ministry  
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Seminary Mission Statement

The mission of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Purpose of the Course

The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the discipline of pastoral ministries. This course will address the following NOBTS Core Values:

- Doctrinal Integrity
- Spiritual Vitality
- Mission Focus
- Characteristic Excellence
- Servant Leadership

NOTE: The Core Value emphasis for 2015-2016 is Mission Focus.

Course Description

This course will aid students to develop competency in pastoral ministry through a study of being called to a church, beginning a pastoral ministry, building relationships, leading a church, and leaving a church field. Practical ministry matters, as well as theological and philosophical considerations, will include training in planning preaching, administrating the ordinances, performing weddings, conducting funerals and ordinations, visiting, counseling, and sustaining spiritual growth.

Student Learning Outcomes

Pastoral ministry is a specific and important type of Christian shepherding. While all Christians shepherd others in various roles and relationships (such as pastors, parents, friends, counselors, teachers, mentors, and supervisors), not all are involved in a pastoral ministry vocation or calling. Usually, students who take this course have a variety of ministry callings and pursue different academic degree programs. Therefore, student learning objectives will vary, as follows:

By the end of this course, students (such as pastors, church staff members, chaplains, missionaries, and church planters) with a pastoral ministry calling and in a related academic degree program will:

1. Apply pastoral ministry principles, concepts, methodologies, and resources to their ministry context in the scope of beginning and leading ministry in a church or in selected shepherding situations.

2. Value pastor-type shepherding as a vital part of their ministry calling and work.

3. Demonstrate acceptable proficiency in pastoral ministry functions (such as able to articulate a clear theology and philosophy of pastoral ministry, engage in effective pastoral care, administer the ordinances, perform weddings and premarital counseling, conduct
funerals and ordinations, do pastoral [non-licensed] counseling, plan worship and preaching, manage some types of interpersonal conflict, do basic organizational problem-solving and planning, and manage time) with the aid of a professor or class resources.

4. Learn people-sensitive and task-focused leadership principles, models and methods related to pastoral ministry and shepherding.

5. Develop a personal philosophy and theology of pastoral ministry, utilizing biblical principles and concepts.

Course Methods

1. Lectures, classroom demonstrations, and other methods will be utilized to teach the course concepts and methodologies of shepherding God’s people, as well as to present various resources available for pastoral ministry and Christian shepherding.

2. Writing assignments will be required to facilitate experiential learning regarding the role, responsibilities, and ministries of pastor-type shepherds. Resource persons will be used to share experiences, as time permits.

3. Class and BlackBoard discussion will be used to enhance and promote personal insights in ministry. Student interaction with peers, pastoral ministry resource persons, seminary faculty members, and the course professor are encouraged during the duration of this class to facilitate such insights.

4. Conferences with the professor are invited and may be accomplished via telephone, email, or office visits. Even informal conferences can stimulate learning and application of course principles and concepts.

Course Textbooks

Required Textbooks:


McIntosh, Gary L. One Size Doesn’t Fit All: Bringing Out the Best in Any Size Church. Grand Rapids: Revell, 1999.

For Further Reading:


**Course Requirements**

1. Using Gary McIntosh, *One Size Doesn’t Fit All* as a guide, develop a **Congregational Analysis** for the church where the student is currently serving either as pastor, church staff, or member. The Congregational Analysis is to follow the 12 chapter subjects, with no more than one page written on each topic. The length of the congregational analysis is to be no more than 12 pages, single-spaced. Documentations from the textbook are to be parenthetical references (see Turabian, chapter 10) like this example: "The future of any size church is the sum of its next moves." (McIntosh, 139). **The Congregational Analysis is due on BlackBoard at 8:00 a.m. September 19, 2015.**

2. Read the textbook *The Two Shall Become One: A Wedding Manual* by Henry and write a single-spaced **Response** involving the following components:

   **Part 1 – Wedding Plans:** Write a one-paragraph response, to each "guideline", (a total of five paragraphs), discussing the significance of the guideline in the wedding planning process.

   **Part 2 – Wedding Ceremonies:** Select any five (5) ceremonies and write a half-page response for each ceremony selected, answering the question "What are the main challenges in planning this kind of wedding ceremony?"

   **The Wedding Manual Response is due on BlackBoard at 8:00 a.m. October 17, 2015**
3. Read the textbook *A Minister’s Treasury of Funeral and Memorial Messages* by Henry and write a single-spaced **Response** involving the following components:

**Part 1 – Guidelines:** Using the guidelines listed, develop a one-page, single-spaced case study, describing in narrative form details of the deceased and the process of planning a funeral from the time of the death notice to the end of the graveside service.

**Part 2 – Memorial Services:** Select any five (5) funeral services and write a half – page response for each service selected, answering the question “What are the main challenges in planning this kind of funeral service?”

**The Funeral Manual Response is due on BlackBoard at 8:00 a.m. November 14, 2015.**

**ASSIGNMENTS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED VIA BLACKBOARD.**

4. There will be a **Mid-term Exam the week 10/23-10/30** and a **Final Exam the week of 12/4-12/11.** The Exams will be timed, on-line exams. The Mid-term Exam will cover class lectures and discussions as well as related chapters from *The Pastor’s Handbook* and *The New Guidebook for Pastors*. The Final Exam will involve class lectures and discussions as well as related chapters from *The Pastor’s Handbook* and *The New Guidebook for Pastors*. The professor will give instructions for preparing for the Mid-term and Final Exam.

Note: *This assignment is an embedded assignment that will be completed by all students for all sections of this course. The rubric for grading this assignment is attached to the syllabus. Please complete the assignment according to the syllabus and this rubric.*

**Course Evaluation:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Congregational Analysis</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td><strong>Due September 19</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wedding Manual Assignment</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td><strong>Due October 17</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td><strong>Week of October 23</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Funeral Manual Assignment</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td><strong>Due November 14</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td><strong>Week of December 4</strong></td>
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<td>Class Participation/Dialogue</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Absences, Make-up Exams, and Late Assignments:**

Students should consult the current NOBTS Catalog for the Seminary policy on class absences. When emergencies exist, the student may petition the Academic Advisor for permission to remain in class with excessive absences.

Assignments turned in past the date and time due will incur a late penalty of ten points, which will be deducted from the assignment grade. **Assignments will not be accepted more than one week past the date due** without permission from the professor.
Selected Bibliography


McIntosh, Gary L. *One Size Doesn’t Fit All*. Grand Rapids: Revell, 1999.


McIntosh, Gary L. *One Size Doesn’t Fit All*. Grand Rapids: Revell, 1999.


Websites:

futurechurch.com  sbclife.com
malphursgroup.com  epicteam.org/resources
parsonage.org/pastor/resources  nextlevel-leadership.com
lazarusproject.org  preaching.com
visionplanning.net  leaderlinks.com
christianitytoday.com  guidestone.org
buildingchurchleaders.com  emergingchurch.org
barna.org  imb.org
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combackchurches.com  lifeway.com
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healthychurches.org  churchfinancialservices.org
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pastors.com  christianitytoday.com